

West Lafayette Parks & Recreation Department

Staff Management Report

Monday, June 20th, 2016

1. Pennie Ainsworth, Assistant Superintendent's Report

- ✓ The Department provided facilities for the Tippecanoe County Senior Games. The softball event used the Arni Cohen south softball field. The croquet event was held in the grassy area between the West Lafayette soccer fields and the Michaud-Sinninger Woods.
- ✓ Cumberland Park's Kiwanis playground update:
 - Pour Boys Concrete has finished installing the sidewalks and ramps. Pour Boys concrete was a great contractor to work with on this project. They came back and replaced a section of sidewalk that was cracked by our staff doing work around the area.
 - The Kiwanis volunteers helped to install the safety surface material in the play area.
 - The Playground dedication will be on Monday, 6/20 at 5:30 pm at the Playground.
 - Two additional pieces of equipment are planned to be added to the playground area.
- ✓ The Visit Lafayette-West Lafayette staff members were taken on a tour of our parks, facilities and trail. The tour helps the Visit Lafayette/West Lafayette promote what our City and the Parks & Recreation department has to offer.
- ✓ The Greater Lafayette Area Soccer Association has completed their spring soccer games. GLRSA practices and plays games at Cumberland Park

2. Chris Foley, Recreation Director's Report:

- ✓ Four summer sports camps have been completed. Summer sport camps are offered by Varsity Coaches at the West Lafayette School Corp. facilities.
- ✓ Volleyball Camp - 35 girls enrolled in Coach Chad Marshall's volleyball camp. The camp was held on May31-June 3 for grades 4-6 & 7-8 at the High School Gym.
- ✓ Girls Basketball camp - 56 Girls participated in Coach Jane Schott's girls' basketball camp.
- ✓ Boys Basketball Camp - 73 Boys registered for Coach Dave Wood's basketball week long camp. Both week long basketballs camps were offered June 6-10 at the High School.
- ✓ Soccer camp was offered at the West Lafayette High School soccer fields. Varsity Coach Shauna Stapleton and her assistants offered instructions from June 13-16, for Pre-K through 8th graders 70 children participated in the soccer camp.
- ✓ Thanks to W. L. Athletic Director Brock Touloukian and the School facility maintenance team for working with the coaches to get the camps scheduled.
- ✓ The Tennis program is underway. The tennis program coordinator is Tim Wright, the W.L.Varsity Tennis coach. Tennis lessons for children are offered at both the West Lafayette Varsity Courts at Cumberland School and the Happy Hollow Courts. Adult Tennis lessons are offered in the evenings at the Cumberland courts.
- ✓ The Municipal Pool opened on May 26 for the summer season. This season started off cool but quickly went to very hot - the weather always plays a big part in our pool season.
 - The Swim lesson program began on May 31. Four - two week sessions are offered at the Municipal Pool. The swim lesson program continues to be a very popular program. Many of the first to levels have filled for many of the sessions.
 - Adult Lap swim started the same day as the pool opened for the season. The Lap swim program has seen an increase in swimmers.
- ✓ Diving lessons are also offered at the Municipal Pool. The Diving program offers three -two week sessions.
 - The Boiler Aquatics is using the pool in the early morning for team practice.
- ✓ The two Playground programs at Cumberland School and the Burt'sfield gym are underway. Thanks to the West Lafayette School Corporation for allowing us to provide recreation programs in their facilities.

3. Bess Witcosky, Morton Center Director:

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- ✓ **The Morton Rain Garden** was planted May 18th. 25 volunteers, 1800 plants, and 3 hours later the rain garden was completely planted. Big thanks to Boiler Green Initiative, WREC and Sara Peel, Omega Phi Beta, Boiler Out and numerous other community members.
- ✓ **Morton X Camp**, the new full day camp runs June 20th-July 1st. Campers will participate in art class, science, reading, yoga, voice, and chess.
- ✓ **Other Camps** at Morton include: Chess, Sing Like a Pop Star, Bricks for Kidz, Theatre Camp, Art Camp, Dance and Creativity Camp. These camps will run periodically through the 1st week of August.

4. Jon Munn, Parks Director Report:

- ✓ Completed concrete ADA improvements at University Farms Park, Trailhead Park, Peck Trackman, and Lommel Park
- ✓ Installed new drinking fountain at Tommy Johnston Park with ADA concrete access
- ✓ Installed new tennis court nets on courts and prepped the courts at Happy Hollow School and at the swimming pool for tennis lessons.
- ✓ The maintenance staff has been working hard to install drainage system, move dirt and install gravel and mulch on the Kiwanis Playground Community build. We are on track for the mulch party and dedication of the playground for Monday June 20.
- ✓ Simon construction will be finishing up on the Happy Hollow trail/boardwalk to the Salisbury street access point this week.
- ✓ Installed new grill at University Farms Park
- ✓ We have had our seasonal help for the past couple weeks and have made improvements on keeping up with mowing and general grounds maintenance.
- ✓ Passed the pool inspections and all pool preparations went smoothly for the 2016 season.
- ✓ Installation of the Morton raingarden is complete
- ✓ I have been attending regular planning meetings for Wabash Riverfest event to be held July 9 at Tapawingo park

5. Dan Dunten, Stewardship Director's Report

- ✓ Served as the coordinator for this year's Mind BOGgling Event. We had a record participation with over 500 attendees. The weather was great and all the volunteers and staff did an excellent job.
- ✓ Hosted and assisted with a Native Plant Gardening workshop that involved over 30 people.
- ✓ Jan & I spoke to a group of Purdue Extension Educators regarding our involvement with the "Value of Public Spaces" program and how we incorporated it into our Master Plan development.
- ✓ We held our first National Trails Day event on a rainy Saturday morning. I was all set up to work with walkers and bikers, but the weather greatly limited participation.
- ✓ I was again asked to serve on the Indiana Parks & Recreation Conference Planning Committee, so we are now working on details for our event that will take place in January.
- ✓ Continue to recruit new volunteers for the Lilly Nature Center. Along with two veteran volunteers, we conducted a training session for the new people.
- ✓ Outdoor Explore is an all-day program coordinated by the County Parks Department, intended to teach individuals about nature and our environment. Jan and I coordinated a booth for our department.

6. Janet Fawley, Park Superintendent's Report:

- ✓ 5/18: Monthly Farmer's Market Booth hosted by Parks
- ✓ 5/21: Participated in Mind Boggling Event @ Celery Bog Nature Area

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- ✓ Participated in meetings regarding Playground ribbon cutting, Global Fest, Redevelopment Commission, WREC, Mayor's Staff Meeting, Pre-council & Council meeting,
- ✓ Met w/ playground representatives re Happy Hollow Playground, and its level of play, feasibility, and fundability.
- ✓ Key staff members attended visitation for Christian Burns, son of City Attorney, Eric Burns.
- ✓ Met with Zagster Staff; determined location for bike rack for fall.
- ✓ Parks Foundation met; Parks Foundation to assist us with the fundraising for the Happy Hollow Playground
- ✓ 6/16: State Street Groundbreaking attended by key staff.